



## Argumentative Essay Writing Guide (Grade 6)

Statement of Purpose/ Focus and Organization	Evidence/Elaboration	Editing/Conventions
<p>The essay is fully developed and focused:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Claim is clearly stated, focused, and strongly maintained.</li><li>• Claim is introduced and communicated appropriately for the purpose, audience, and task.</li></ul> <p>The response has a clear and effective organizational structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A variety of transitional strategies are used to effectively clarify the relationships between ideas.</li><li>• Development of ideas from beginning to end is logical.</li><li>• Introduction and conclusion are effective for audience and purpose.</li><li>• Appropriate sentence structure variety produces strong connections among ideas.</li></ul>	<p>The essay provides thorough and convincing support/evidence for the writer's claim and includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Claims are supported with clear reasoning and relevant evidence from credible sources.</li><li>• Use of evidence from sources is complete and smoothly integrated and cited.</li><li>• A variety of effective elaborative strategies are used.</li></ul> <p>The response demonstrates strategic use of language to produce clear communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Precise language clearly and effectively expresses ideas.</li><li>• Use of academic and topic-specific vocabulary is clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose.</li></ul>	<p>The essay displays adequate command of all grade-level conventions of writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some errors in usage and sentence formation may be present, but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed.</li><li>• Use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling is adequate.</li></ul>

### References and Citations

When referring to evidence and information from passages, students should use paraphrasing and short quotations. To credit sources, students should use informal, in-text citations (e.g., MLA author or title tags).